



STATE OF MICHIGAN

MEMBERS:

SEN. HILDENBRAND, MAJ VICE CHAIR
SEN. MEEKHOF
SEN. WHITMER, MIN VICE CHAIR
SEN. HUNTER

THE SENATE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE

S-106 CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7536
PHONE: (517) 373-3543
FAX: (517) 373-0927

SENATOR RANDY RICHARDVILLE
CHAIR

MINUTES

The Senate Government Operations Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2012, in the Capitol Building, Rooms 402 and 403.

Senator Richardville called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Senators Richardville (C), Hildenbrand, Meekhof, Whitmer, and Hunter

Absent: None

Excused: None

Senator Richardville announced the order of business:

Adoption of December 13, 2011 committee minutes

HCR 6	Rep. Opsommer	A concurrent resolution to memorialize Congress to adopt and submit to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States Constitution to require a balanced budget.
SR 115	Sen. Casperson	A resolution to memorialize Congress to adopt and submit to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States Constitution to require a balanced budget.
SCR 26	Sen. Hansen	A concurrent resolution to memorialize Congress to adopt and submit to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States Constitution to require a balanced budget.
SB 971	Sen. Richardville	Labor; public service employment; definition of public employee; restrict.

Senator Richardville requested a motion to adopt the minutes from the December 13, 2011 committee meeting. Senator Meekhof moved to adopt the minutes.

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Yeas: Richardville, Hildenbrand, Meekhof, Whitmer, and Hunter

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Richardville then announced the committee would be discussing Senate Resolution 115, Senate Concurrent Resolution 26, and House Concurrent Resolution 6, sponsored by Senators Tom Casperson and Goeff Hansen and Representative Paul Opsommer, respectively. Senator Richardville welcomed special guest, Congressman Bill Huizenga, who testified in support of the resolutions and answered questions from the committee members.

Following Congressman Huizenga, Senator Richardville called upon Representative Paul Opsommer and his 3 1/2 year old grandson, Ryan Opsommer, to share their thoughts on the resolutions. When finished with their remarks, Representative Opsommer and Ryan Opsommer answered questions from the committee members.

Senators Tom Casperson and Goeff Hansen also discussed the resolutions with the committee members and answered their questions.

With no further testimony for SR 115, SCR 26, and HCR 6, Senator Richardville requested a motion to report SR 115 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Senator Hildenbrand moved to report SR 115 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Yeas: Richardville, Hildenbrand, and Meekhof

Nays: None

Pass: Whitmer and Hunter

The motion prevailed.

The Senate Government Operations Committee reported SR 115 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Senator Richardville requested a motion to report SCR 26 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Senator Meekhof moved to report SCR 26 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Yeas: Richardville, Hildenbrand, and Meekhof

Nays: None

Pass: Whitmer and Hunter

The motion prevailed.

The Senate Government Operations Committee reported SCR 26 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

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Senator Richardville requested a motion to report HCR 6 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Senator Meekhof moved to report HCR 6 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Yeas: Richardville, Hildenbrand, and Meekhof

Nays: None

Pass: Whitmer and Hunter

The motion prevailed.

The Senate Government Operations Committee reported HCR 6 with recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Senator Richardville announced the next order of business was Senate Bill 971, sponsored by himself. Senator Richardville gave a brief explanation of the bill and then began to call upon those individuals who submitted cards with their positions on the bill.

The committee heard testimony from the following individuals regarding their positions on the bills:

Ms. Cynthia Wilbanks, representing University of Michigan—OPPOSE

Ms. Ellen Hoekstra, representing Capitol Services representing AFT Michigan—OPPOSE

Mr. Jeremy Moore, representing Graduate Employees Organization—OPPOSE

Ms. Samantha Montgomery, President, Graduate Employees Organization—OPPOSE

Ms. Wendy Bartlo, representing Wayne State University Graduate Employees Organization—OPPOSE

Dr. Fawwaz Ulaby—SUPPORT

Ms. Melinda Day, representing Graduate Student Research Assistants—SUPPORT

Mr. Andrew Richner, UM Regent—SUPPORT

Michael Benson, Graduate Student Body President—NEUTRAL

The following individuals submitted cards indicating their position, but did not wish to speak:

Ms. Wendy Block, representing Michigan Chamber of Commerce—SUPPORT

Mr. Adam Duzik, representing Students Against GSRA Unionization (UM)—SUPPORT

Ms. Anna Belak, representing Students Against GSRA Unionization (UM)—SUPPORT

Tim Hughes, representing UAW—OPPOSE

Michael Huerta, representing UAW Local #602—OPPOSE

Jonathan Harmon, representing MEA—OPPOSE

Chris Reynolds, representing Michigan Professional Fire Fighters—OPPOSE

Michael Keller, representing AFL-CIO—OPPOSE

Ed Bryant, representing Lansing Community College Michigan Association of Higher Education—OPPOSE

Zane Hubbard, representing IUOE—OPPOSE

Mike Migrin, representing MSEA—OPPOSE

Dominick Pallone, representing MEBS (Michigan Employee Benefits Services)—OPPOSE

Scott Lounds, representing UAW—OPPOSE

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With no further testimony for SB 971, Senator Richardville moved forward with voting on the bill.

Senator Richardville announced there was an amendment to consider, sponsored by Senator Meekhof. After giving a summary of the amendment, Senator Richardville requested a motion to adopt it.

Senator Meekhof moved to adopt the amendment to SB 971.

Yeas: Richardville, Hildenbrand, Meekhof, Whitmer, and Hunter

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Hunter moved, with Senator Whitmer's support, to table SB 971 from further consideration by the committee today.

Yeas: Whitmer and Hunter

Nays: Richardville, Hildenbrand, and Meekhof

The motion did not prevail.

Senator Richardville requested a motion to report SB 971, as amended, with recommendation that the bill pass.

Senator Hildenbrand moved to report SB 971, as amended, with recommendation that the bill pass.

Yeas: Richardville, Hildenbrand, and Meekhof

Nays: Whitmer and Hunter

The motion prevailed.

Senator Richardville requested a motion to give SB 971, as amended, immediate effect.

Senator Meekhof moved to give SB 971, as amended, immediate effect.

Yeas: Richardville, Hildenbrand, and Meekhof

Nays: Whitmer and Hunter

The motion prevailed.

The Senate Government Operations Committee reported SB 971, as amended, with recommendation to the Committee of the Whole that the bill pass and further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect.

Being no further business before the Committee, Senator Richardville adjourned the meeting without objection at 12:46 p.m.

22 May 2012
Date approved by Committee